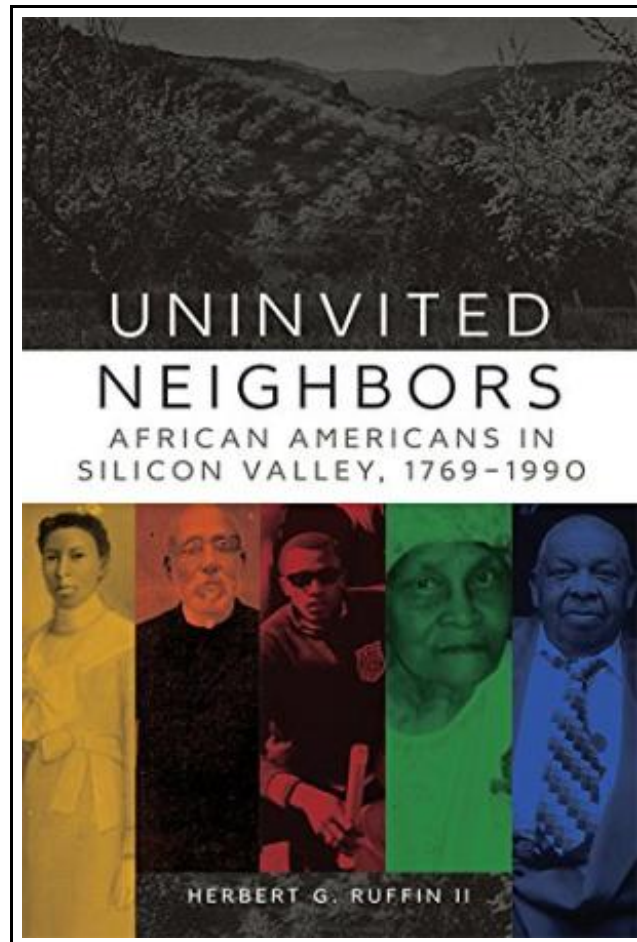


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University of Oklahoma Press, United States, 2014. Hardback. Book Condition: New. New.. 231 x 155 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book. In the late 1960s, African American protests and Black Power demonstrations in California s Santa Clara County including what s now called Silicon Valley took many observers by surprise. After all, as far back as the 1890s, the California constitution had legally abolished most forms of racial discrimination, and subsequent legal reform had surely taken care of the rest. White Americans might even have wondered where the black activists in the late sixties were coming from because, beginning with the writings of Fredrick Jackson Turner, the most influential histories of the American West simply left out African Americans or, later, portrayed them as a passive and insignificant presence. Uninvited Neighbors puts black people back into the picture and dispels cherished myths about California s racial history. Reaching from the Spanish era to the valley s emergence as a center of the high-tech industry, this is the first comprehensive history of the African American experience in the Santa Clara Valley. Author Herbert G. Ruffin II s study presents the black experience in a new way, with a focus on how, despite their smaller numbers and obscure presence, African Americans in the South Bay forged communities that had a regional and national impact disproportionate to their population. As the region industrialized and spawned suburbs during and after World War II, its black citizens built institutions such as churches, social clubs, and civil rights organizations and challenged socioeconomic restrictions. Ruffin explores the quest of the area s black people for the postwar American Dream. The book also addresses the scattering of the black community during the region s late yet rapid urban growth after 1950, which led to the creation of...

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